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F L O R I D A

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FEATURED ARTIST

Robert Cray

JAZZ ARTISTS

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PETER & WILL ANDERSON TRIO
MANHATTAN TRANSFER & TAKE 6
LUCY WOODWARD
EMMETT COHEN
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MIKE ZITO
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Robert Cray - 40 Years of Blues

Singer, guitarist and songwriter Robert Cray has created a sound that rises from American roots and arrives today both fresh and familiar.

In just over 40 years, Cray and his band have recorded 20 studio releases, 15 of which have hit the *Billboard* charts, and played around the world. There are five Grammys with Cray's name on them, and he has a suitcase full of W.C. Handy Blues Awards. A few years ago Cray was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame. Growing up in the Northwest, Cray listened to the gospel, soul, rock and pop. He would bring all of those influences into play throughout his career, but blues legend Albert Collins defined his early direction. And with the Robert Cray Band's 1980 debut, *Who's Been Talkin'*, word began to spread. Blues and soul fans showed up, but so did fans of rock, funk and jazz.

The Cray Band's next two releases – *Bad Influence* and *False Accusations* – charted, but then Cray went into the studio with Collins and another great Texas guitarist and singer, Johnny Clyde Copeland, to record the electrifying classic *Showdown!*. Still no one knew how broad the band's audience would be until the 1986 release of *Strong Persuader*. "Smoking Gun," was followed by "I Guess I Showed Her" and "Right Next Door (Because of Me)." The Cray Band's next two releases, *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark* and *Midnight Stroll*, brought even more fans into the fold.

Amidst these accolades, soaring record sales and a packed touring schedule the Cray Band recorded six CDs in the 90s. Cray produced *Shame + A Sin*, which referenced his blues roots, in 1993. It was followed by two more self-produced recordings, *Some Rainy Morning* and *Sweet Potato Pie*. Recorded in Memphis and featuring the famed Memphis Horns, *Sweet Potato Pie* was the Cray Band's most soulful album to date. The next recording, *Take Off Your Shoes*, delved even deeper into Memphis sounds of the '60s. "That was definitely

a soul record," Cray says. The personification of Memphis soul, Willie Mitchell, was on hand to help with arrangements for the Memphis Horns.

Mitchell discovered and first recorded Al Green along with other Southern Soul singers like Ann Peebles, O.V. Wright and Syl Johnson for the famed Memphis label Hi Records.

Appearing on both *Take Your Shoes Off* and the current release *4 Nights of 40 Years Live*, "Love Gone to Waste" show-

cases Robert Cray's natural ease with soul ballads. He is intense but smooth in telling the story of love gone bad. Then his falsetto soars through the sadness into the inevitable pain. It is a song that Cray owns because no other singer has dared try to do it justice. *Take Your Shoes Off* won a Grammy in 2000.

In the next decade the Cray Band recorded seven CDs, three of them live, and two – *Twenty* and *This Time* – were nominated for Grammys. The group's most recent recordings, *Nothing But Love*



and *In My Soul* put the band back on the *Billboard* Charts.

In 2015 Cray released *4 Nights of 40 Years Live*. Through clips of concerts from the '80s and four more recent shows, the evolution of the Cray Band unfolds. Comments by Cray and band members add depth. Interviews with Eric Clapton, Keith Richards, Bonnie Raitt, Jimmie Vaughan and Buddy Guy put the band in perspective. The multimedia release is a testament to the band's longevity and vitality. The '80s concert footage is exuberant and shows the charisma of Young Bob (a reference in song that Cray makes to himself in homage to Muddy Waters calling himself Young Muddy) as a guitarist, vocalist and band leader. The



live performances at recent concerts capture seasoned musicians bringing a vivid, illustrative past into the moment. Cray's Stratocaster solos sing, cry and take on the funk. His voice has grown richer and wiser yet remains sweet.

It is truly extraordinary for musicians to thrive over four decades, but the Robert Cray Band has done just that. On the DVD, Jimmie Vaughan sums up Robert Cray's singularity and success simply when he says, "He's got one foot in the future and one foot in the old stuff." More at robertcray.com.

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The Summit: The Manhattan Transfer Meet Take 6

Between them, the two groups boast a remarkable 20 Grammy Awards, and a range of styles that covers nearly every genre of popular music; from jazz to swing, from gospel to R&B. As The Manhattan Transfer mark the 45th anniversary of their debut recording on Atlantic Records, Janis Siegel, Alan Paul, and Cheryl Bentynne will honor founding member, Tim Hauser, as they continue to tour with their newest member, Trist Curless. Each of these legendary acts has 10 Grammy Awards to their credit amongst a host of other recognitions. The two groups are known for their ability to move effortlessly among a wide range of styles from jazz to swing, pop and gospel to R&B. The Manhattan Transfer marks the 45th anniversary of their debut recording this year while Take 6 recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. Take 6 has been recognized as the quintessential a capella group in virtually every genre. They were inducted last year into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame, from whom they have received 10 Dove Awards in addition to their Soul Train Music Award, BRE (Black Radio Exclusive) Vocal Group of the Year and more. Heralded by Quincy Jones as the "Baddest vocal cats on the planet!" Take 6 (Claude McKnight, Mark Kibble, Joel Kibble, Dave Thomas, Alvin Chea and Khristian Dentley), captivates the audience wherever they perform. They've performed on *Saturday Night Live*, the Oscars, the Grammys, and for four sitting U.S. Presidents. More at goldcoastjazz.org.



PHOTO BY JOHN ABBOTT

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Walter Trout

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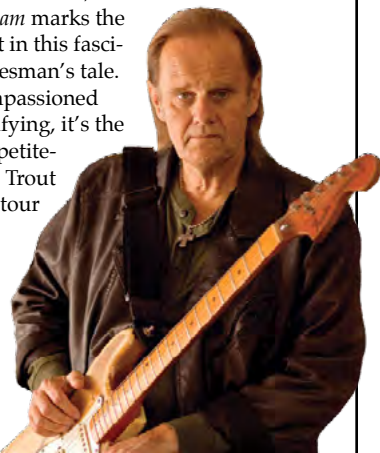
FEBRUARY 18
TERRA FERMATA
STUART

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SEA-BLUES FESTIVAL

A native of New Jersey, Walter Trout's practical schooling began in earnest when he arrived in Los Angeles in 1974, and promptly earned his reputation as an A-list sideman, backing John Lee Hooker, Big Mama Thornton, Finis Tasby, Pee Wee Crayton, Lowell

Fulsom, Percy Mayfield and Joe Tex. In 1981, he joined the remaining original members of the legendary Canned Heat, but the real turning-point was his five-year tenure with British blues giant John Mayall, who invited Trout to become the latest in the Bluesbreakers' lineage of guitar greats (including Eric Clapton, Peter Green and Mick Taylor). Trout founded his own solo band in 1989 and cut his debut album *Life In The Jungle* that same year, rapidly becoming a chart-topping star in Europe. His first stateside release, 1998's critically heralded *Walter Trout*, made him a fixture of the US blues-rock scene. 2015's *Battle Scars* was his 42nd album, but he's not quite done. Over the decades, Trout has accumulated numerous honors. He is a three-time winner of the Overseas Artist Of The Year title at the British Blues Awards, and a three-time Blues Music Awards nominee. In 2015, he won the Sena European Guitar Award, an honor he shares with acclaimed past winners like Brian May, Steve Lukather and Slash. Trout's six-string prowess also earned him the #6 slot in BBC Radio 1's Top 20 Guitarist listeners' poll. Now, *ALIVE*

in Amsterdam marks the latest twist in this fascinating bluesman's tale. Urgent, impassioned and electrifying, it's the perfect appetite-whetter as Trout brings his tour to Florida. More at waltertrout.com.



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Emmet Cohen

FEBRUARY 27
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Multifaceted jazz pianist and composer Emmet Cohen has emerged as one of his generation's pivotal

figures in music and the related arts. A recognized prodigy, Cohen began Suzuki method piano instruction at age three, and his playing quickly became a mature melding of musicality, technique, and concept. He placed first in both the American Jazz Pianists competition (2014) and the Phillips Piano Competition at the University of West Florida (2011). He was a finalist in the prestigious American Pianists Association's Cole Porter Fellowship (2015, 2011) and the Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition (2011). Cohen has appeared in world-renowned jazz events and venues, from the Blue Note to the Monterey Jazz Festival, and was received in the Oval Office by President Obama. He is currently Hammond B3 organist-in-residence at Harlem's Smoke jazz club. His most recent recording is the brand-new *Masters Legacy Series* featuring Jimmy Cobb. Along with being the leader of the Emmet Cohen Trio, and pianist and music director for jazz vocalist and television personality Lea DeLaria, Cohen is also member of trios with both Ali Jackson and Christian McBride, and he has appeared regularly with Kurt Elling, Billy Hart, Jimmy Heath, Brian Lynch and Herlin Riley. An alumnus of the YoungArts Foundation, he now produces and directs multidisciplinary high school YoungArts programs nationally that employ creative writing, theater, dance, visual arts, cinematography, music, voice, and jazz. Cohen visits 50 schools yearly through Jazz at Lincoln Center's "Jazz for Young People" program and regularly presents jazz history and performance lectures.

More at emmetcohen.com.



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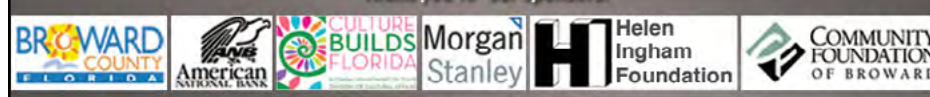
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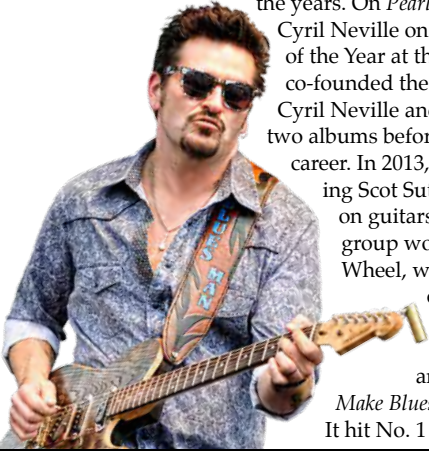


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Mike Zito

Born in South St. Louis, Missouri, Mike Zito grew up in a working class home with a love of music as both an escape and a way out. After a decade working in a local guitar shop, Mike learned his craft from the ground up, playing in clubs seven nights a week. He fell in love with the St. Louis blues and the stories of the country singers. His self-released debut, *Blue Room*, hit the streets in 1998, and he has released over a dozen albums total over the years. On *Pearl River*, Mike collaborated with

Cyril Neville on the title track, which won Song of the Year at the 2010 Blues Music Awards. Mike co-founded the Royal Southern Brotherhood with Cyril Neville and Devon Allman, and they released two albums before Mike left to focus on his own career. In 2013, Mike released *Gone to Texas*, featuring Scot Sutherland on bass, Jimmy Carpenter on guitars/sax, and Rob Lee on drums. The group would become Mike Zito and The Wheel, who have been honored with multiple Blues Music Awards over the past decade. Mike produced Albert Castiglia's latest CD, the BMA-nominated *Big Dog*, and both Mike and Albert are up for Contemporary Blues Male Artist and Rock Blues Album of the Year. Mike's 2016 release, *Make Blues Not War*, features Walter Trout, Jason Ricci and Zach Zito. It hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Blues chart. More at mikezito.com.



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Lucy Woodward

The daughter of two classical musicians, Lucy Woodward spent her childhood, as she puts it, "music-making and creating." Fresh out of school, she was singing jazz on Bleecker St. for tips, singing in cover bands and writing songs before signing with Atlantic Records—a time period that saw her score a Top 40 hit with "Dumb Girls" and another Top 5 hit she wrote for Stacie Orrico called "(There's Gotta Be) More to Life." But Woodward had no desire to be a pop starlet. Her follow-up, the jazzier *Lucy Woodward is... Hot and Bothered*, was released in a unique indie arrangement with Barnes and Noble. This, in turn, was followed by *Hooked!*, an album of Brill Building

meets swing-styled songs, released on Verve and produced by Tony Visconti. Along the way, Woodward toured as a band member filling in for the lead singer of Pink Martini. She has also recorded with Rod Stewart, Celine Dion, Carole King, and Joe Cocker. Her songs and vocals have been heard in movies including *What a Girl Wants*, *The Blind Side*, *Music and Lyrics*, *First Daughter* and *Ice Princess*, featuring the Betty Hutton/Bjork classic "It's Oh So Quiet." She has toured with the funk/jazz/world band Snarky Puppy as her backing band, and was featured on their 2013 Grammy-winning *Family Dinner* album on the song "Too Hot to Last." *Til They Bang on the Door* is her first solo album in six years. It's a slinky, brassy and decidedly sexy record that marks a bold, new direction. More at lucywoodward.com.



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Hailing from Champlain, New York, halfway between Lake Placid and Montreal, Hank Bredenberg spent a year with The Billy May Orchestra, under the direction of singer Frankie Lester, and 13 years with trumpeter Don Goldie. A summer in Detroit with Dixieland legend Wild Bill Davison, and engagements

with Al Hirt, clarinetist Tim Laughlin, and clarinetist Jacques Gauthier were rounded out by jam sessions with Buddy Tate, Buck Clayton, Rex Stewart, Dicky Wells, J. C. Higginbotham, and J. C. Heard. For over a decade, Hank played Roaring Twenties music in The Sizzling Syncopators, led by '20s guru, pianist Gary Lawrence. As a member of the Gold Coast Jazz Society's band, he played several times with pianist Dick Hyman, and single engagements with reedman-arranger Bob Wilber and saxophonist Flip Phillips. Since Y2K, he has produced concerts of the Jam Session music of Buck Clayton, and the music of Jelly Roll Morton and Bessie Smith. And for the last three years he has been playing the trombone and serving as bandleader for Hank's Hot Jazz Band, using the Swing-Dixie arrangements of Billy Maxted, and the vast repertoire of Traditional Jazz. If there's a tune from King Oliver or Jelly Roll Morton or Preservation Hall, Hank will find it for you, and the band will play it for you. More at hankshotjazz.com.



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FEBRUARY 11
GROUNDUP
MUSIC FESTIVAL
MIAMI BEACH

Laura Mvula

Born Laura Douglas to a mother from Saint Kitts and a father from Jamaica, Laura Mvula was raised in Birmingham, UK. She graduated from the Birmingham Conservatoire with a degree in musical composition, and was working as a receptionist when she started sending out demos. After singing in her aunt's a cappella group Black Voices, she formed the group Judyhouse in 2008. The following year saw the foundation of the Lichfield Community Gospel Choir, of which Laura is a director. She also directs the Alvechurch Community Choir. After signing with RCA records, she released her debut EP *She* in 2012. Her debut album, 2013's *Sing to the Moon*, saw its first single, "Green Garden," charting across Europe. The CD reached No. 9 on the UK Albums Chart and the top 100 in seven other countries. Her unique style, combined with influences including Nina Simone, Jill Scott, Erykah Badu and Lauryn Hill, led Paul Lester from *The Guardian* to describe her music as "gospeldelia," calling it a new musical genre. *Laura Mvula with Metropole Orkest* conducted by Jules Buckley at Abbey Road Studios was released in 2014. And Mvula's 2016 release, *The Dreaming Room*, features the lead single "Overcome," a hit collaboration with Nile Rodgers. Laura is currently writing the music for the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2017 show, *Antony and Cleopatra*. More at lauramvula.com.



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Terence Blanchard

FEBRUARY 11
GROUNDUP
MUSIC FESTIVAL
MIAMI BEACH

Since top-tier jazz and multiple Grammy-winning trumpeter and composer Terence Blanchard embarked on his solo recording career with his eponymous Columbia Records album in 1991, the New Orleans-born and -based artist has traveled many paths musically, including delivering adventurous and provocative acoustic jazz outings of original material, composing over 50 soundtracks and so much more. In the spirit of his onetime membership in the jazz school of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, mentored several musicians in his bands

who have gone on to have significant recording careers of their own. Since 2000, Blanchard has served as artistic director at the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz. In 2011, he was named the artistic director of the Henry Mancini Institute at the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

And in 2013, Blanchard premiered his first opera, *Champion: An Opera in Jazz*, with the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, about the life of boxer Emile Griffith. As a leader and co-leader, Blanchard has recorded

more than 30 albums that often defied genres, yet were still critically acclaimed. But for his latest Blue Note Records album, *Breathless*, Blanchard powerfully and playfully journeys into another jazz realm with his new quintet, The E-Collective—an exciting zone of grooved fusion teeming with funk, R&B and blues colors. It's a first foray into straight-up groove-land for Blanchard, and he's thrilled with the dance-steeped party he and his quintet (and guests) have cooked up. More at terenceblanchard.com.



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Albert Castiglia

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FEBRUARY 23
LITTLE BAR
GOODLAND

FEBRUARY 24
GUANABANAS
JUPITER

FEBRUARY 25
DOWNTOWNER
FORT LAUDERDALE

Released in 2016, Albert Castiglia's *Big Dog* confirms that he's a very different breed from the lightweight and arrivistes who dominate the modern music scene. At 47, he's slugged his way into contention the old-fashioned way: writing from his heart, bleeding into his performances, eating up the road. "I have no illusions about what kind of guitar player and singer I am," he states. "My style is raw, unadulterated, crude and heavy. I don't have the technical proficiency of other players, but I play what's in my

heart and what I feel at that moment. When I write songs, they have to mean something."

There's not an ounce of fat on *Big Dog's* eleven tracks. "You could feel the mojo in the studio," Albert recalls. We had a studio-savvy band with an incredible amount of soul, and Mike Zito's role as producer was the wildcard."

After getting his big break from none other than blues legend Junior Wells, Albert kicked off his solo career began with 2002's *Burn* and hasn't let up since. Now *Big Dog* is nominated for a Blues Music Award in the Rock Blues Album of the Year category. More at albertcastiglia.net.



Nominated for Three 2017 BMAs!
Contemporary Blues Male Artist
Rock Blues Album of the Year
Keep Coming Back
Rock Blues Album of the Year
Producer: Big Dog - Albert Castiglia

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February 15
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Orlando

February 16
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Bradenton

February 17
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Harley Davidson
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Peter & Will Anderson

Described by *The New York Times* as “virtuosos on clarinet and saxophone,” and known for their exciting arrangements of American jazz classics and fresh original music, Peter and Will Anderson were selected from an international group of teenagers for Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead, the Next Generation Jazz Orchestra, and NFAA Young Arts. Endorsees of Selmer saxophones and D’Addario reeds, Peter and Will hail from Washington, DC, then attended Juilliard in New York City, where they currently reside. They’ve headlined at The Blue Note, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, and many others. Their ensemble has performed across the US and Japan, and was featured four times in NYC’s famed “Highlights in Jazz” series, alongside Lou Donaldson, Paquito D’Rivera, and Wycliffe Gordon. “Le Jazz Hot,”



PHOTO BY LYNN REMIPE

produced, written, and starring the Andersons, was nominated for the 2014 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revue. The brothers have performed with the Jimmy Heath Big Band, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Village Vanguard Orchestra, Wycliffe Gordon, Cecile McLorin Salvant, Paquito D’Rivera and Kenny Barron, among others. Peter and Will’s fourth and most recent release album is 2015’s *Deja Vu*, featuring Albert “Tootie” Heath. In 2016, they performed live on Garrison Keillor’s *Prairie Home Companion*, playing a duo version of “Lotus Blossom” commemorating Billy Strayhorn’s centennial. More at peterandwillanderson.com.

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Bear & Robert

Bear and Robert are Cindy Bear and Franc Robert, an award-winning singer/songwriter duo from Jacksonville. Their acoustic sound has been described as a deep well of folk, blues and Americana with a high energy *je ne sais quois*. A Montreal native, Franc got his start in that city's 1980s club scene, hosting the popular jam at the famous Rising Sun Nightclub, where

he learned at the feet of blues greats like Buddy Guy, Albert Collins, and Robert Cray. After relocating to Florida, Franc played in local and regional blues bands before recording and releasing *49x61* on his own in 2010. With his backing band, the Boxcar Tourists, he followed it with *Why Do I Never Win* and 2012's acclaimed *Mulligan Stew*. Franc has opened up for numerous regional and national blues acts, including Johnny Winter, Southern Hospitality, Jimmy Thackery, Damon Fowler, Nick Moss & The Flip Tops, Eden Brent, Bill "Sauce Boss" Wharton, and many more. A clever word-smith and storyteller, Cindy Bear's original songs are empowering and insightful, with catchy melodies and toe-tapping rhythms. She placed in the Top 10 for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Will McLean Best New Florida Songwriting Contest, and was recently selected as a finalist in the 2016 South Florida Folk Festival Singer-Songwriting Contest. While in Memphis representing the Suncoast Blues Society (Tampa) in the solo/duo category at the 2017 International Blues Challenge, the couple will also be celebrating their honeymoon. Congratulations! More at bearandrobert.com.



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2:00-4:00pm **Longineu Parsons Ensemble**

4:30-6:30pm **Joshua Breakstone Trio**

7:00-9:00pm **Grace & the Victory Riders**

LUCERNE STAGE

11:00am-12:30pm **Jim McCreavy**

1:00-3:15pm **Unorthodox Duo**

3:45-6:30pm **Simona DeRosa Trio**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

MAIN STAGE

12:00-2:00pm **Gianni Bianchini Trio**

2:30-4:30pm **Nicholas Marks**

5:00-7:00pm **Diogo Brown & Batuke Samba Funk**

LUCERNE STAGE

11:00am-12:30pm **Frank Axtell**

1:00-3:15pm **Simona DeRosa Trio**

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